Further, Rs. 16.98 crore was released for VRS and the company has released 389 employees. Government counter guarantee for Rs. 4.55 crore has been provided to the Company.

Capital Restructuring of the Company and conversion of loan into equity has been approved incumbent on Joint Venture (JV) formation for which action has been initiated

The sanctioned scheme envisaged that the Company will mobilize Rs. 13.47 crore from sale of 4 plots of land. So far, only one plot has been sold for Rs. 4.68 crore. The company is making vigorous efforts for sale of remaining 3 plots.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. BIFR has issued a show cause notice on 13.6.2002 that the company be wound up as the revival scheme has failed.

The BIFR has observed that the performance of the Company has deteriorated resulting in increase of operating losses and the accumulated loss. Further, the Company/Government of India (GOI) has not been able to finalise the sale of the remaining 3 plots of surplus land. The GOI has also not provided the disired budgetary support of Rs. 5 crore for payment of salaries and wages. Also there is no likelihood of the networth of the company turning positive by 2002-03 as envisaged in the Revival and Modified Scheme Sanctiond by the Board.

(d) to (f) Government has provided to the company a budgetary support of Rs. 184 lakhs in July, 2002 for payment to salaries/wages from August 2001 to Februray, 2002. In addition the Government has agreed to provide budgetary support of Rs. 6.79 crore for statutory and other dues.

Review of Navratna status of PSEs

1271. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH; Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to review Navratna status of public sector enterprises which had become due since 1997;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the details of the new scheme?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Government has created an institutional mechanism for periodical review of the performance and status of Navratna Public Sector Enterprises. An Apex Committee has been constituted for this purpose for which instructions have been issued on 15.3.2002. The format for reviewing the performance of Navratna PSEs has since been drawn up. All the administrative Ministries/Departments have been asked to advise the Navratna PSEs under their administrative control to complete the format and forward it to the Department of Public Enterprises through the administrative Ministry/Department.

Regional langauge news in Oriya on DD-1

1272. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA; Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the regional language news in Oriya on DD-1 is being telecast only once everyday against three to five times in other regional languages; and

(b) whether Government propose to telecast as least three times news in Oriya regional language on DD-1?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROACASTING (SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Prasar Bharati has informed that from 20th July, 2002, there are two bulletins in Oriya, from Regional News Unit, Bhubaneswar—a 10 minute long morning bulletin from 8.00 a.m. to 8.10 a.m—Monday to Saturday and from 8.30 a.m. to 8.40 a.m. on Sunday, in addition to the existing evening news bulletin telecast daily between 7.00 p.m. to 7.15 p.m.

Two headling bulletins have also been introduced in Oriya, at 3.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. with effect from 15th July, 2002.

Non-payment of wages to workers in CPC

1273. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that casual staff working in Central production Centre, particularly Floor Assistants, have not been paid their wages/ remuneration since April, 2002;